

Amendment After FINAL
U.S. Serial No. 10/619,380
Inventor: Whitaker et al.
Filed: July 14, 2003
Attorney Docket No: 281-398.01

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-11, 13-18, 20-24, 26-28, 30-33, 35, 36, 38-41 and 43-57 were presented.

Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 11, 13-18, 20-23, 27, 28, 30-31, 36, 38-41, 43-46, and 50-57 were rejected. The rejection was made FINAL.

Claims 7-10, 24, 26, 32, 22, 35 and 47-49 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In the interest of furthering the prosecution of the application, Applicants have cancelled claims 1-3, 5, 6, 11, 13-18, 20-23, 27, 28, 30-31, 36, 38-41, and 43-46.

As further discussed below, Applicants have amended all claims that were objected to, have amended rejected claims 50-51 which depended from rejected claim 6 to depend from claim 7, have amended rejected claims 52-53 which depended from rejected claim 23 to depend from claim 24, amended rejected claims 54-55 which depended from rejected claim 31 to depend from claim 32, and amended rejected claims 56-57 which depended from rejected claim 46 to depend from claim 47.

Applicants believe that all claim rejections are rendered moot by the cancellation of rejected claims and by the amendments to claims 50-57.

Applicants have amended claim 7, which was objected to as depending from a rejected base claim, to be an independent claim that includes all of the limitations of claims 1 and 6 from which claim 7 depends. Claims 50 and 51 have been amended to depend from claim 7 rather than from canceled claim 6. No new material has been added by the amendments. Claims 8, 9, and 10 depend directly or indirectly from claim 7. Applicants believe that independent claim 7 is now in condition for allowance, as are claims 8, 9, 10, 50 and 51.

Applicants have amended claim 24, which was objected to as depending from a rejected base claim, to be an independent claim that includes all of the limitations of claims 1, 11, 21 and 23 from which claim 24 depends. Claims 52 and 53 have been amended to depend from claim 24 rather than from canceled claim 23. No new material has been added

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by the amendments. Applicants believe that independent claim 24 is now in condition for allowance, as are claims 52 and 53.

Applicants have amended claim 26, which was objected to as depending from a rejected base claim, to be an independent claim that includes all of the limitations of claims 1, 11, 21 and 23 from which claim 26 depends. No new material has been added by the amendments. Applicants believe that independent claim 26 is now in condition for allowance.

Applicants have amended claim 32, which was objected to as depending from a rejected base claim, to be an independent claim that includes all of the limitations of claims 27 and 31 from which claim 32 depends. Claims 54 and 55 have been amended to depend from claim 32 rather than from canceled claim 31. No new material has been added by the amendments. Claims 33 and 35 depend directly or indirectly from claim 32. Applicants believe that independent claim 32 is now in condition for allowance, as are claims 33, 35, 54 and 55.

Applicants have amended claim 47, which was objected to as depending from a rejected base claim, to be an independent claim that includes all of the limitations of claims 27, 36, 44 and 46 from which claim 47 depends. Claims 56 and 57 have been amended to depend from claim 47 rather than from canceled claim 46. No new material has been added by the amendments. Claims 48 and 49 depend directly or indirectly from claim 47. Applicants believe that independent claim 47 is now in condition for allowance, as are claims 48, 49, 56 and 57.

Applicants believe that all of the objections to claims depending from rejected claims are overcome by the amendments.

After the amendments, claims 7-10, 24, 26, 32, 33, 35, 47-49 and 50-57 are pending.

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CONCLUSION

In the interests of furthering prosecution, Applicants have canceled rejected claims 1-3, 5, 6, 11, 13-18, 20-23, 27, 28, 30-31, 36, 38-41, and 43-46.

Applicants have amended claims 7, 24, 26, 32 and 47, which were objected to as depending from a rejected base claim, to be independent claims that include all of the limitations of all claims that they depended from.

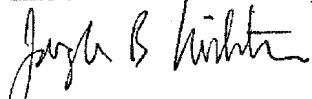
Applicants have amended rejected claims 50-57 to depend from allowable claims.

After the amendments, claims 7-10, 24, 26, 32, 33, 35, 47-49 and 50-57 are pending.

Applicants submit that claims 7-10, 24, 26, 32, 33, 35, 47-49 and 50-57 are now in proper condition for allowance, and request the issuance of a Notice of Allowance at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

If the Examiner believes that contact with Applicants' attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the phone number noted below.

Respectfully submitted,
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